PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. : 10/590,533

Applicant : D. Glenn Purcell Filed : May 24, 2007

Title : Dampening And Retraction Mechanism For A Lancing Device

TC/A.U. : 3731

Examiner : Sarah A. Simpson

Confirmation: 9803
Docket No.: MSE-2695

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO A NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 22, 2008

Mail Stop Amendment – via EFS Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Dear Commissioner:

This is in response to the Non-Final Office Action dated December 22, 2008. The shortened statutory period for response is three months from the mailing date, i.e., by March 22, 2009 and, thus, this response is being timely filed on the next business day. In response to the Office Action mailed December 22, 2008, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the record for this application.

The Applicant's **Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

The Applicant's **Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.